## GLOBAL WARMING? - RUBBISH

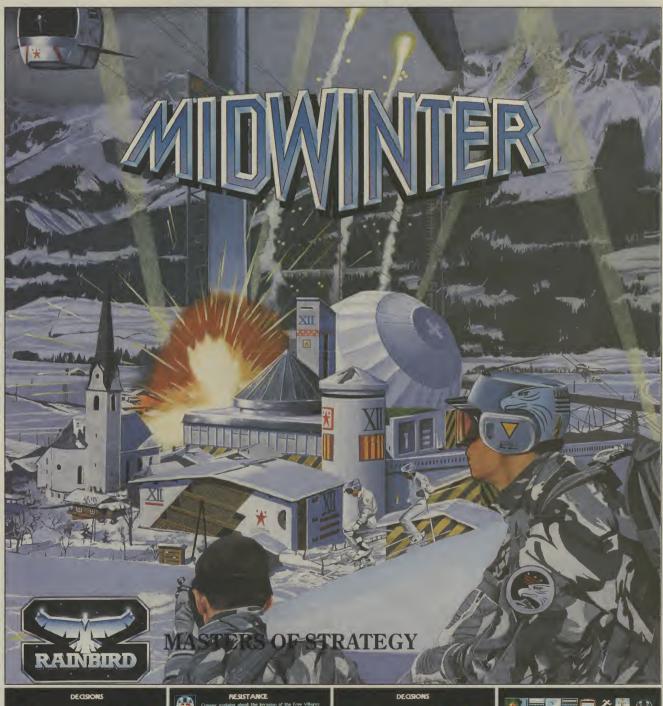
## THE NEXT ICE AGE STARTS IN 2 MONTHS

Imagine a 30 Kilometre meteor smashing into the Earth. \* THE AIM IS SURVIVAL Imagine a new Ice Age. The Earth, beaten and frozen, yields it's last island oasis. This last refuge is threatened by ruthless invaders. The history of the island, charts and maps of your 80,000 square mile refuge and a 32 strong band of defenders is yours. The first shot has been fired and time is not on your side.

- \* THE PLAYING AREA IS AN ISLAND OF OVER 80,000 SQ. MILES
- \* CONTROL A FORCE OVER 32 MEN
- \* A 3D TERRAIN NEVER BEFORE SEEN HOME
- \*DETAILED MANUAL & MAPS

WHEN THE LEVELS OF DIAMOND DUST IN THE ATMOSPHERE REACH A CRITICAL LEVEL. THE RESULT IS . . .

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GUILLE STORE

ONE THING
MAKES THEM BETTER THAN
THE REST....





## COMPO

# HAAAIII-YAAA!!!

## WIN A COPY OF CHAMBERS OF SHAO LIN AND A BRAND SPANKING NEW ST TO PLAY IT

Hon'able software merchants at Grandslam think their new game, Chambers of Shaolin is the bee's knees, if not the dragon's toenails when it comes to in-depth computer beat 'em up technology. In fact, they're so sure of themselves that they're prepared to prove it to one ultra-fortunate C+VG reader.

Unfortunately, this game is so amazingly hot that we could only get hold of one Atari ST copy to give away... But in case you haven't got an ST, Grandslam decided to throw one of those in as well. Not bad, eh?



Winning these goodies is all down to your creative ability, so no hard questions about "How long is the Great Wall of China in furlongs?" or "What was the name of Charlie Chan's number two son's number three girlfriend?".

No.

Instead, we want you to design the ultimate martial artist - a Ninja with jet-powered shurikens, a Kung Fu master with spiked espadrilles, that sort of thing. The more outlandish the gear, the better.





Put your design on paper in the form of a sketch or painting (don't worry if you can't draw - it's ideas we're after), then bung it in an envelope with your name and address, then send it to... THE INSCRUTABLE SLASH 'N' BASH COMP, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGDON LANE, LONDON EC1R 3AU.

The closing date is January 3rd 1990, so you've got the entire Christmas hols in which to complete your masterpiece...



## DUT OF THIS WORLD

An intricate 3D strategy game involving an interconnecting network of towers, platforms and lifts all rendered in solid 3D with innovative light and shading techniques. Take control of robot spiders and program them to solve problems and puzzles and interact with other creatures, such as Pushers, Zappers and Grabbers. Alternatively, real time control is available to you at any time for instantaneous reaction to the game's developments. For the more adventurous among you, there is a complete game designer, allowing the construction of your own series of towers, platforms and lifts. Attempt to fox your friends with your own fiendishly difficult creations. More than just a game, more than just a puzzle - Tower of Babel is a whole new concept in strategy gaming.

















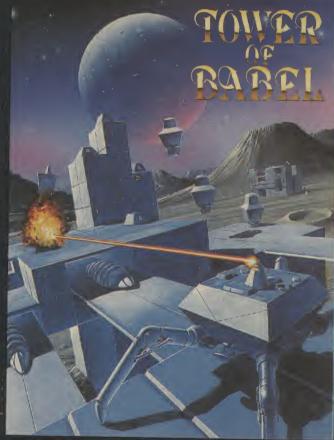


HELEN URLE

ABSORBERS. Imagine yourself in a world full of nightmares with Dali-Esque

creatures & mind eating eyes. Picture yourself in an upside down landscape Alone in a weird dream & wondering what

bizarre concepts yet seen on a computer being more of an experience than a game".





wo years is a long time in anyone's life, let alone a software publisher's. You can do a lot of things in two years. things which were illegal then could be perfectly legitimate now, for example. Or you could start to write a sequel to your best-selling classic, stop half-way through to produce a pseudo sequel to another one of your classics, and then carry on from where you left off.

+ 000 000 149

010000 \*\*-\*\* 000010

Which is exactly what Novagen's Paul Woakes did. It's been a long time coming, but Da- amidst his helpful banter which mocles - the follow-up to what was the ultimate adventure game, Mercenary - is here, bigger, better and considerably

Damocles carries on from where you left off in Mercenary. Remember? You were heading for the Gamma system when you were forced to crash-landing on Targ and subsequently had to acquire an interstellar craft and escape with up to 10 objects and as much money as possible.

Arriving in the Gamma system and landing on the planet Eris, you find that the comet Damocles is due to collide here in a few hours time - and you are the only one capable of stopping

Damocles' gameplay is similar to its predecessor's, only this time around the hundreds of objects dotted around not only have financial value, but a use for example, an assortment of tools lying around could have

suitable repair qualities. Then there's a camera, complete with film, which can be used to record events to show to your mates at your leisure. Explosives also play a major part. One obvious solution to your plight would be to blow up the comet. and no doubt a few buildings or planets along the way.

Your only help is your ship's computer, a ninth generation PC by the name of Benson. He's a guide and mentor who's not averse to the occasional dry quip scrolls across the top of the panel below the play area.

Moving around the Gamma system is straightforward enough, allowing you to concentrate on the task in hand. There are no flaps, no undercarriage and no complicated instrumentation to worry about. The panel below the play area shows, to the left: temperature, speed, altitude and coordinates for navigation purposes, while on the right there's time remaining, cash obtained and a text inventory window in the centre. Whereas in Mercenary you could only drop the last object taken, here you can select the object you wish to drop or use and it's shown in the window in the centre of the panel so you know what you are dealing with.

The Gamma system is similar to our own, comprising a sun, nine planets, 18 moons and thousands of stars - all "mapped" onto a heavenly backdrop (this consistency means you can use

BRIEFCASE

▲ A place of worship? the more obvious star constellations for navigation purposes). Each planet has its own day and night cycles, and even years pass - only you don't have time to sit



▲ The Gamma system.

BY NOVAGEN



- 000 000 000 ERIEFCASE 000002 456.789-01 06-25-12

Voyager must be like. Landing on a planet you can watch planet-falls and sun rises, or explore building complexes, road networks (complete with junctions!) and underground mazes found in most of the cities. Most objects are found in rooms in the buildings or mazes, but some are only available from

may enjoy walking or running letes among us there are 20 different vehicles to be discovered. flight - the helicopter and tank for example... oh, and the skatewhen you get really desperate!

Anyone familiar with Novagen's Mercenary will appreciate the virtual total freedom available to the player in Damocles as the two play very similarly. only Damocles is considerably larger and no less absorbing because of it. Fluid solid 3D graphics generate a wholly believable environment which is a joy to explore, and the unique feeling of being there is exemplary. There are dozens of "neat bits" to discover along the way and plenty of Benson's dry quips to bring a smile to even the most jaded adventurer's face. It's not surprising Damocles took two years to produce - it will probably take at least another two years to complete it every which way possible!

**BRIAN NESBITT** 

getting back to the task in hand the trading post.

around, but for the armchair ath-Not all craft are capable of space board, which is only worth using

The more energetic player

## OVERALL 95%

**PLAYABILITY 96%** 

around in Starglider II was good, wait 'til you get a

load of this. Damocles is an

experience to behold - and one not to be missed.

£19.99

96%

77%

93%

## **UPDATE**

**GRAPHICS** 

If you thought flying

SOUND

VALUE

Sorry, 8-bitters: versions for your machines are out of the question. Work has yet to begin on an Amiga incarnation, but expect to play a very similar game in a month or so for the same price as ST Damocles. The news is also good for PC people, who didn't get to sample the delights of Mercenary the first time around. The CGA, EGA and VGA conversions of Damocles are being carried out by Paul Woakes and should see the light of shop toward the middle of next year. A price has yet to be fixed, and depending on the product's success, a PC version of Mercenary could follow.

around and watch! That said, it's easy to get engrossed in the planetary movement, and you can begin to appreciate what the breath-taking view from



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CBM 64/128 & AMSTRAD Cassette & Disk. SPECTRUM 48/128K Cassette. ATARI ST. AMIGA. IBM P.C.







BY VIRGIN/SALES CURVE

993 is a dirty era in world history, with drugs, prostitution and similar unsavoury practices more rife the ever. Look on the bright side though, at least there's only one man controlling the lot. Snag is, the bloke in charge is President Bangler, who has the police and armed forces, as well as the entire criminal underworld in his grasp. Although he has crushed almost every uprising against him and his government, one rebel organisation, led by Mulk, continues the struggle against this vile ruler's despicable acts. A plan is drawn up to infiltrate the dictator's ranks, with the intention of assassinating Bangler, using two state of the art robots; the Ninja Warriors.

▲ Watch out for the gunman!

Six seedy areas stand between the droids and Bangler, and these must be cleared of hostile forces before the President can be reached. Intelligence has informed Bangler of the threat to his life however, and extra troops have been drafted in to each area, with a super-strong guardian at the end of each one to ensure the quick demise of the robots.

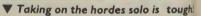
Disguised as knife-wielding, shuriken-throwing ninja, the droids can withstand only a limited number of hits before they explode into shards of metal. And if that isn't enough, a self-destruct device has also been built into the robots, destroying them should they fail to com-

plete each level within the given time limit.

Ninja Warriors began as one of those ultra-trendy triple-monitor coin-ops, and the elongated look of the arcade machine has been represented surprisingly well on the ST, the overall playing area being compressed into the middle third of the screen. Although this means a reduction in the size of the graphics, everything still looks remarkably similar to the original, especially the robots which lose parts of their skin when hit by

bombs and bullets, uncovering their metallic frames underneath. Animation of all the sprites is first class, with a charming little spurt of blood when enemy soldiers are downed by a shuriken. Sound is also a delight, using a combination of crisp samples and bogstandard (but still very palatable to the ear) ST music throughout to great effect.

The simultaneous two-player option of the coin-op has been retained for the computer game, and rightly so; Ninja War-





**▼** Dodge the cyber-hunchback!







# A denuded robo-ninja rides the tank.

## UORS



C+VG HITI

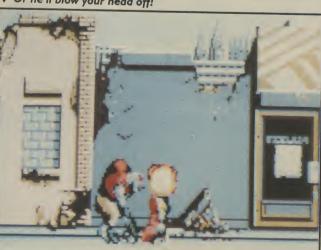
riors is mega-tough almost from the word go. Mention must also be made of the clever loading

▼ Or he'll blow your head off!

system which dumps the necessary data into memory as and when it is needed. Scrolling is held up now and again because of this constant interruption from the drive, but you're normally too busy hacking up scores of soldiers either side of you to notice.

Ninja Warriors is a tough game, but the great playability keeps you coming back for more. Highly recommended to beat 'em up fans.

PAUL RAND



## **UPDATE**

C64 Ninja Warriors is coming soon, and also uses a thin screen to give a coinop feel. Should be worth looking out for.

GRAPHICS 87%
SOUND 85%
VALUE 84%
PLAYABILITY 88%

Ninja Warriors has transferred from coin-op to computer extraordinarily well. The graphics are small, but well-defined, and a novel loader ensures a wide variety of assailants throughout. Play is tough, but it's a conversion that hack 'n' slash arcade fans will relish

OVERALL 85%

## AMIGA £24.99

Slicker scrolling, better sound and better sprite definition than the ST make this a winner all the way. Ninja Warriors is one of the best beat 'em ups available on the Amiga at the moment - check it out.

OVERALL 86%

111





BY MICROSTYLE

# ENOPHOBE



▲ Blast that crawler.

enophobe is a split screen one or two-player shoot 'em up in which two mercenaries enter a series of abandoned space stations and destroy the aliens who've taken over.

Although Xenophobe is an accurate conversion, it still isn't particularly fun to play. The fault lies not in the computer game itself, but instead with the coin-op from which it has been copied. Arcade Xenophobe (which incidentally featured three-player action) wasn't a hit due to its simplistic gameplay. All there is to the game is beaming onto a platform, picking up a load of ob-





▲ Shoot it in the head!

AMIGA £24.99

Looks and sounds the same as the coin-op, but lacks variety and lasting appeal.

OVERALL 61%

ST

£19.99

Arcade perfect graphics and good sound, but the gameplay just doesn't hold your attention for long.

OVERALL 60%

SPEC

£9.99

The graphics are monochrome but the gameplay's the same. There's just not enough variety to hold your attention.

OVERALL 61%

▲ 88% infection! Yipe!

jects, and shooting diagonally downwards or forwards at hordes of green aliens. There's hardly any variety from screen to screen, and very little in the way of two-player interaction. Consequently the first few games are fun, but boredom soon creeps in.

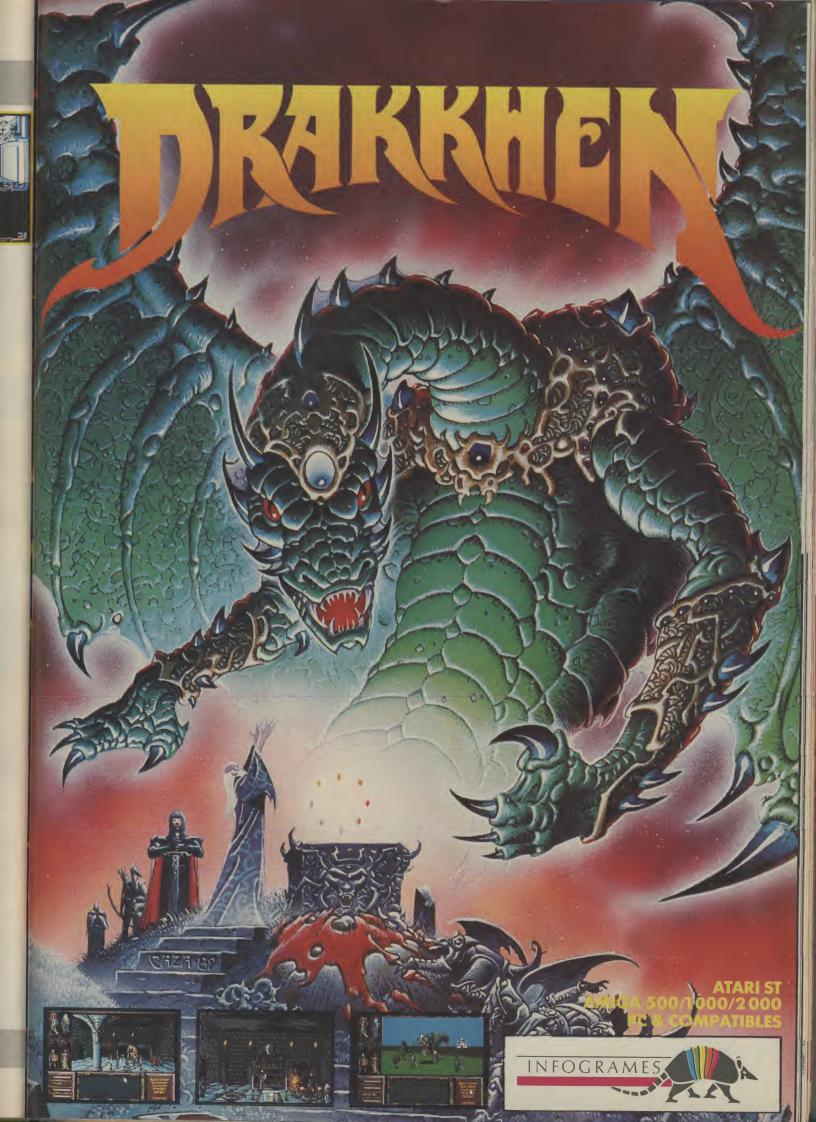
The graphics and sound are fine. But the gameplay's just too bland to make this anything other than average.

PAUL RAND

GRAPHICS 77%
SOUND 80%
VALUE 61%
PLAYABILITY 78%

Starts off as a fun shoot 'n' pick 'em up, but repetitive gameplay rapidly puts a dampener on the proceedings.

OVERALL 60%



COMPO

## WIN A DAY BURNING UP THE TRACK AT SILVERSTONE OR A FAB RADIO CONTROL RACER

If you read last month's C+VG you'll know that Virgin Mastertronic's conversion of Continental Circus is one of the top road-racers around. But y'know, sitting in front of a screen joysticking your F-1 sprite around a famous Grand Prix circuit is all very well, but for REAL trouser-soiling thrills, there's nothing like a REAL trip around a world-famous race track, driving at mind-warping speeds in a REAL racing car! And that's just what Virgin Mastertronic are offering two first prize winners in this fabsville compo - a day's tuition at the John Watson Driving School at Silverstone in either an MG Montego EFi or a SC1 single seat racing car!

Don't despair if you're a non-driver, though, because Virgin are also giving away a terrific radio-controlled racing car, as well as copies of Continental Circus and posters as runners-up prizes for those who don't yet possess a current driving licence.

All you have to do to take delivery of one of these prizes is design the most amazing racing machine on four wheels. You know the sort of thing - Pirelli Enormo-tyres, a vast engine, loads of chrome and some puretty fancy paintwork - something that could do some real damage to the environment.

Get your sketch or painting in a whopper envelope and send it to: I'VE DESIGNED A CAR THAT LOOKS SO MEAN YOU'LL HAVE TO CHANGE YOUR UNDERPANTS COMP, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGDON LANE, LONDON, EC1R 3AU.

We'll be judging the competition as soon as we get back from Christmas hols (if we survive New Year's Eve, that is), so make sure your entries are in by January 3rd.







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## 

## **AMIGA**



iro, the last Bladeknight, stands alone and stares across the barren, red wastelands that were once the peaceful world of Thraxx. He is the only survivor of a terrible war, waged by Havok and his nightmarish forces, who rose up and shattered the Fireblade, the power source of the people of Thraxx. Now he must avenge the death of his race by entering the Undercity, Havok's lair, piecing together the sixteen segments of the shattered blade and using it to kill Havok...

The mission starts near the entrance of the Undercity, a



▲ Very Oriental opening screens.

BY GREMLIN GRAPHICS

00000710

sprawling hazardpacked labyrinth that's heavily
populated by
Havok's hordes who
attack Hiro on sight.
Being a Bladeknight, he
is skilled in combat, but sometimes even his powerful punches
and kicks can't cope with the vicious onslaught, and his energy
bar is worn down as the enemy
strike. If the bar is worn down
five times his mission is over.

But things aren't all bad sometimes extra energy capsules and even weapons such as
guns and firebomb launchers can
be found by kicking open false
panels in the walls. Extra weapons are extremely useful, but
because the power of the Fireblade has been destroyed, they
only work for a limited period of
time.

The pieces of the Fireblade are hidden throughout the Undercity, often in rooms











Hola! The title screen (yeah, we ran out of pics).

whose doors are hidden behind But it's the incredibly addictive walls which break when punched or kicked. So when you enter a new room, check out any likely-looking walls for hidden rooms and secret passages.

gameplay that makes Switchblade a classic platform game that no self-respecting games player should be without.

**JULIAN RIGNALL** 



When the Fireblade is fully assembled, Hiro can finally hunt down Havok and face him in a final showdown. There can only be one winner...

Switchblade (designed and programmed by Core, who were also responsible for the brilliant Rick Dangerous) is a tremendous game which looks and sounds like a 16 bit product, but plays like a console game. The gameplay is superlative, with a beautifully-balanced difficulty level that is very challenging, but lets you get just a little bit further with every go, making it massively addictive (watch the hours fly by when you're playing it). There are loads (and I mean loads) of hidden bonuses to discover, and you seem to find something new every game, adding even more lasting appeal.

The graphics are small, but detailed, and the sound is great, with a thumping good soundtrack and excellent spot effects.



## **UPDATE**

ST, Amstrad, Spectrum and C64 versions are coming soon, and will all feature the same maddeningly addictive gameplay. Don't miss 'em.

**AMIGA** £24.99 **GRAPHICS** 81% SOUND 91% **VALUE** 90% **PLAYABILITY 95%** 

A smashing platform game which combines unbelievably addictive gameplay with great graphics and sound. If you thought Rick Dangerous was good, this'll blow your socks off!!!

**OVERALL** 

# BATTA

## Batman -The Movie from Ocean

Taken from the brilliant blockbuster movie. Prowl the streets of Gotham City in your Batmobile. Come face to face with the dreaded Joker at the Axis Chemical Factory. Analyse the Joker's Nerve Gas in the Batcave and then prepare yourself for the final fight to the death in the cathedral.

- 5 different scenarios Superb graphics and
- sound Captures the atmosphere and excitement of the movie perfectly

"It's edge of seat excitement that grips you solidly." **Amiga Format** 





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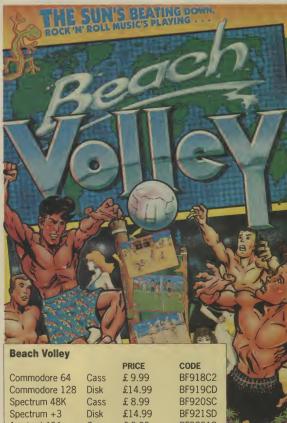
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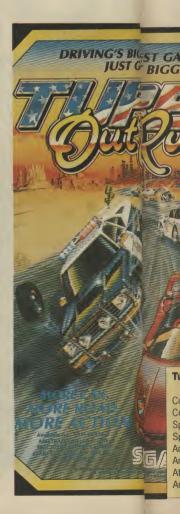
## **Beach Volley** from Ocean

Your team travels the globe from London to Sydney challenging all comers in the latest craze that's sweeping the beaches. Fantastic action with variable service and play controls as you lob the defences, try a lightening reflex short smash to win back your service, jump block or defend your match winner.

This is Beach Volley... you may even catch a tan!.



-	7	A	
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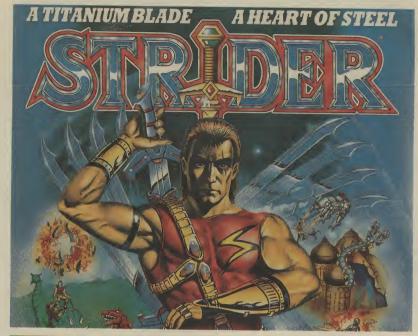


## Strider from US Gold

In the eternal struggle between good and evil, both Russians and Russia look very different. You take on the role of Strider Hiryu and need to do battle with The Lord and his wicked minions. You're dropped into Red Square and must guide Strider across platforms destroying KGB agents with your trusty sword. Get through all this and return to Moscow to face the Grand Master of the Red Army.

"Arcade fans who like their games spiced with plenty of action and rushing around are certainly going to enjoy this.

**Amiga Format** 



Strider			
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## ET ONE FREE





## **Turbo Out Run** from U S Gold

Get ready to put your foot to the metal, pedal to the floor, because Out Run is back!

The game takes you on a 4 stage race accross America. Driving a Ferrari F40 you'll battle bumper to bumper with good guys and bad guys, police cars, Porsches, blown engines and fickle girlfriends.

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time and

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and go for manual or

auto gearbox selec-

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CVG 12/89

## 

**>** 51

ard Drivin' was originally developed as a real driving simulator, designed to help learners get the feel of what it's like to be behind the wheel of a car However, halfway through development, the programming team wisely decided that the machine would make far more money if it was turned into a coin-op, so they beefed up the specifications of the car, added speed and stunt tracks—and created the highest-grossing arcade game of all time.

The coin-op is an impressive beast, and features very fast filled-3D polygon graphics that create a real-world environment. There are options that let you select an automatic or manual five-speed gearbox, and the car handles very realistically. So how the hell has it been squeezed into an ST? Read on and find out...

As in the arcade game you're given the choice of an automatic or manual gearbox. Automatic is a must for beginners. Cocky drivers who opt for manual gear change can use the keyboard or a joystick just like a real stickshift. You can also use a joystick or keyboard for steering, but the mouse gives the best feedback and provides the best feeling of really driving.

Once you've got the controls sussed it's onto the race. There are two tracks to drive on, stunt and speed, and the rules are simple - just drive through one of the checkpoints down the road before the clock runs out to gain extra time. As long as you keep on going through

**BY DOMARK** 



▲ The tracks - expect more in the near future!

those checkpoints (there are three) you can keep on going But be prepared to put your foot down, 'cos the time limits get tighter and tighter!

TO CHALLENGE

Just like in real life, it's the other road users who make life difficult. Cars and trucks cruise the tracks in both directions an while they don't actually drive dangerously, they do get in the way something chronic. When the clock is ticking down you have to be prepared for some

pretty hairy overtaking, and if there's anything coming in the opposite direction... KAPLOOIE

It's almost worth crashing, though, because whenever you total the car on a building or another vehicle, fly off the loop-the-loop, fail to make the jump over the bridge, the crash is replayed from a remote angle so you can see exactly how you just hospitalized yourself!

At the start of a game, you're given a lap time target. Beat it

and you get the chance to challenge the legendary Phantom Photon, a mean computer driver who'll give you a very fast one-lap race around the course Beat him to the finishing post and your winning lap is kept in memory as the next lap time target - beat your own record and you actually challenge yourself to a race, with the computer car exactly reproducing your winning lap! Brilliant, eh?

Programmer Juergen Friedrich has worked miracles in

HARD DRIVIN

## 

pouring the proverbial quart into graphics; but the ST has reprowhat's more, they hardly slow down at all when things get busy. Sampled arcade sound efscreeching of tyres to the distressed cow. But it's the perfect control feedback and the exhilarating sensation of driving unfeasibly fast over unfeasible you'll have on a home computer.

As if you needed any further persuading, Domark are releasyear to use with Hard Drivin', featuring new cars, tracks and roadside obstacles, and later on in the year they plan to release a full track editor, so you can de-What more could racing fans ask

**JULIAN RIGNALL** 

GRAPHICS 90% SOUND 78% VALUE 89% PLAYABILITY 93%

A stunning conversion that contains all the features of the arcade game and plays brilliantly. An absolute must for all boy racers.

OVERALL 

UPDATE

The Amiga version is coming along nicely, and will look and play the same as

the ST version. Spectrum

and Amstrad Hard Drivin'

both look very impressive,

although they do slow

down when there's lots

going on - still all the features of the arcade game

are in there. The C64 version is an unknown quantity

- it's not the greatest machine for doing 3D















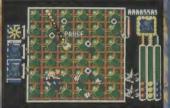
## THE BEST OF ARCADE ACTION











RICK DANGEROUS Explorer extraordinaire. Rick Dangerous dodges traps with guile and defies death, with a smile through the perils of foreign adverture. The most exciting himnlest, and original platform game in years.

"Rick Dangerous is simply a brilllant game & combines humerous graphics & some of the most devious low down game play I've seen in years " C & VG HIT

OUARTZ You'll need superhuman reactions to play Ouartz a challenging 8-way scrolling blastem-up, where missiles whize in every direction. Keep your finger on the trigger and your wirs about you to survive 22 levels of mayhem.

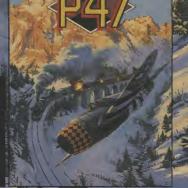
Quotation incorporates just about every stipot-'em-ing conrept ever devised — enough to impress just about anybody. The One

MR HELI. Get your chopper airborne and steer Mr. Heli through mazes laden with danger; earn your money to buy new weapons as the fire-power is upped; clearing your path to unmask 'The Muddy' takes nerve and cunning. Play sharp, steer right, keep up the fight!

P-47. Pilot your World War II Lightning P-47 Thunderbolt dangerously deep behind enemy lines. Blow-away the enemy airforce, blitz ground installations and blast your way to victory in this stunning conversion of the lalescoping.







MicroProse, Unit 1, Hampton Road Industrial Estate, Tetbury, Glos, GL8 8DA.

Axel has become mega-rich, due to all the royalties which he received from being named in the Beverly Hills Cop theme tune, and he's as happy as a sand lark because of it. Unfortunately, his girlfriend Lucy isn't what you'd call over the moon, as she's been kidnapped by a big, green dragon whose song was rejected by the film company. Axel, being the charming chappie that he is (and because he wants even more publicity and royalties), braves the terrors of the outside world and sets off to find young Luce.

The dragon is hiding in a faraway castle which Axel must



reach to pay the ransom, passing A Our helmeted hero busts bricks 'n' blocks.

## DEVIEW

of all those cute Japanese games, with devilish woodland creatures bogging you down wherever you go, lots of goodies to collect and a host of hidden rooms to hunt down and loot. Unfortunately, programmers Core have made one little slipup while attempting to put across the feel of a trendy Japanese arcade adventure when was the last time you saw Mario or Alex fighting their way across a black backdrop? Garish colour is all-important in this type of product, something which has been overlooked.

Still, that's hardly a niggle, and Axel's Magic Hammer gets

## FS MAGIC

BY GREMLIN

though eight different lands before reaching his woman. A myriad of baddies must be annihilated along the way, which include poisonous snakes, vampire bats and primitive pygmy tribesmen. To add to this confused state of affairs, Axel must collect all of his cash, which is hidden throughout the eight levels (the shy superstar doesn't trust banks), in order to get his girl back safely.

To protect himself from the rigours of the outside world. Axel carries a hammer with which to biff the baddies over the head, as well as to smash the many blocks which contain the loot. Some blocks, though, hide useful objects which our lad can utilise on his journey, articles which include new weapons, extra lives and keys to secret

Axel is working to a strict time limit set by the dragon, but he still has enough time to search the many bonus rooms, hidden across the levels, which may or may not contain money or objects.

Anyone who owns a Sega console will immediately realise where the programmers have taken their inspiration from; the thought of Alex Kidd practically butts you in the face from the word go. In fact, Axel's Magic Hammer is a clever combination

## HAMMER



▲ Fireballs make things a little easier.



▲ What an 'arrowing experience! (har har!)

the thumbs-up from this reviewer. It's captured the feel of the consoles, with a host of cuddly graphics which you'd want to snuggle up to, were they not trying to do you in, and music is suitably bouncy, jingly and generally superbly suited to the proceedings. Brilliant!

PAUL RAND

## **UPDATE**

The Amiga version of Axel's Magic Hammer will be released shortly, and with the exception of a few minor colour and sound alterations, should be exactly the same as the ST game.

£19.99 GRAPHICS 79% SOUND 82% VALUE 82% **PLAYABILITY 85%** 

Alex Kidd on the ST? Not quite, but an impressive game-of-the-genre, which gives ST owners the chance to play console owners at their own game.

**OVERALL** 





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COMPO

# WOOOAH! WEEE!! WHOO-HOO!! OH DEAR, I'VE CRASHED.

Oh, how the cynics chuckled when Domark announced they had bought the licence to convert Atari's Hard Drivin', the machine with the mighty "Polygonizer" hardware which makes fast 3D vector graphics such a breeze to program.

But now those same cynics are "laughing on the other side of their faces" (to coin a popular phrase) and if you look at the review on page 120 of this issue, you'll see why. The conversions are nothing short of brilliant, and Domark are so pleased with them that they are happy, nay, ecstatic to be giving away a brand spanking new video cassette recorder and a collection of highly entertaining cassettes, jampacked with stunt driving escapades and loads of car-crashing laffs. Great fun, all in all.

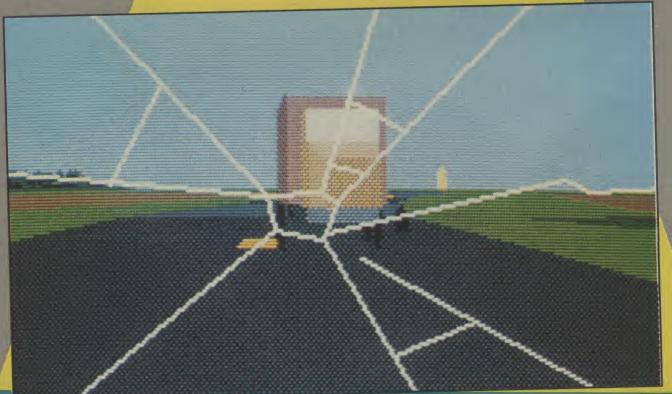
"How do I win this saucy prize?" is the question which is no doubt playing about your lips. Well, me old beauties, all you have to do is this. Find yourself

a large piece of paper, dig out your little sister's Care Bear-shaped fluffy pencil case, then pull on your thinking cap and design the ULTIMATE stunt driving course.

We want loop-the-loops of course. Daredevil leapssure, yeah. But the winner will have even more bizarre and exotic obstacles on his or her track, like... Oh no, no clues. We're going to leave it wholly to your imagination.

Once you've got your idea on paper, bung it in a nice big envelope then whizz it off tooooo... THE "DO-MARK DOESN'T HALF DRIVE A HARD BARGAIN" COMPO, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRING-DON LANE, LONDON, EC1R 3AU.

The winner will be picked as soon as we come back from our Christmas hols in January of next year. Remember, we can only return entries if they're accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope!!



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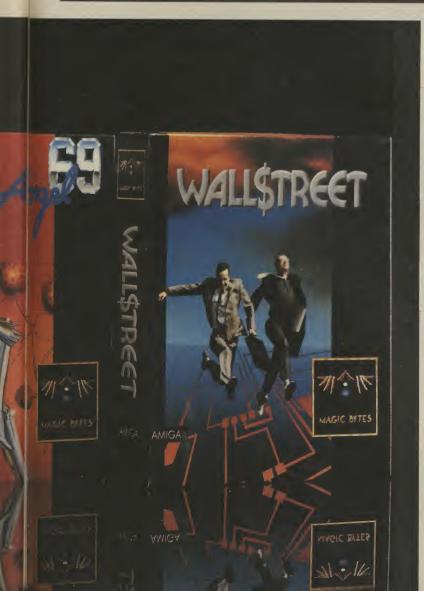
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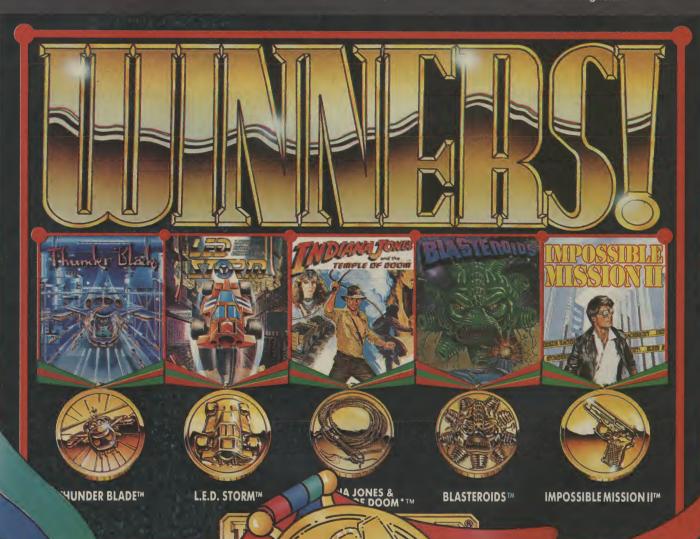
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# SCAPEGHOST

## **BY LEVEL 9**

here's one thing you can be sure of when you play Scapeghost - you won't make a fatal mistake that will get you killed. How come? You're already dead when the game starts! In fact, you start your existence in this game by watching the crowd disperse at the end of your own funeral, and from then on, it's up to you to prove how effective a ghost you can be.

The adventure is in three parts, and whilst each can be played separately, it's far better to treat the game as one whole adventure. In this case, on the Amiga at least, moving between parts is almost transparent to the player. Playing a part out of order will undoubtedly spoil the story as a whole.

Scapeghost has all the usual Level 9 commands. You can GOTO a named location, character, or object, talk to other

▲ Luke uses force.

characters and ask them to carry out tasks for you. And with RAM SAVE and UNDO commands. you have a slick set of tools at your disposal for getting you out ▼ Policemen in mourning suits attend your funeral.

of trouble. On versions with graphics, the pictures slide up and down under mouse control, and refresh in situ.

Scapeghost combines a very

original story line with some highly unusual puzzles based on the supposed characteristics of ghosts. The high-level commands available make it a pleasure to play, and free from frustration even if a silly mistake is made. The puzzles range from easy to quite hard, and there are clues in the text to guide the player, making this a game anyone should be able to tackle with confidence.

Despite the occasional glitch, I rank Scapeghost as Level 9's most enjoyable adventure. Their most enjoyable adventure of all time, in fact, because sadly Level 9 have announced that this is to be their final adventure.

KEITH CAMPBELL

## UPDATE

If you're an adventure fan. you'll be pleased to hear that Scapeghost is coming out on virtually every machine: Spectrum, C64, Amstrad, Atari XL/XE (text only), BBC 48k, BBC Master (with pictures) Atari ST, IBM PC, Amstrad PCW and on C64, Amstrad and Spectrum +3 disks with pictures. Hurrah!

I stared around at the others, as a priest mouthed platitudes over a nearby grave, and wondered who had copped it this time. Then I read the name on a nearby wreath...

(This version allows you to use RAM SAVE and RAM RESTORE to save a position in memory, and UNDO to take back bad moves).

vas standing beside my own grave. I could see some nowmers, a detective, a lebte, a new wreath and a mound of earth.

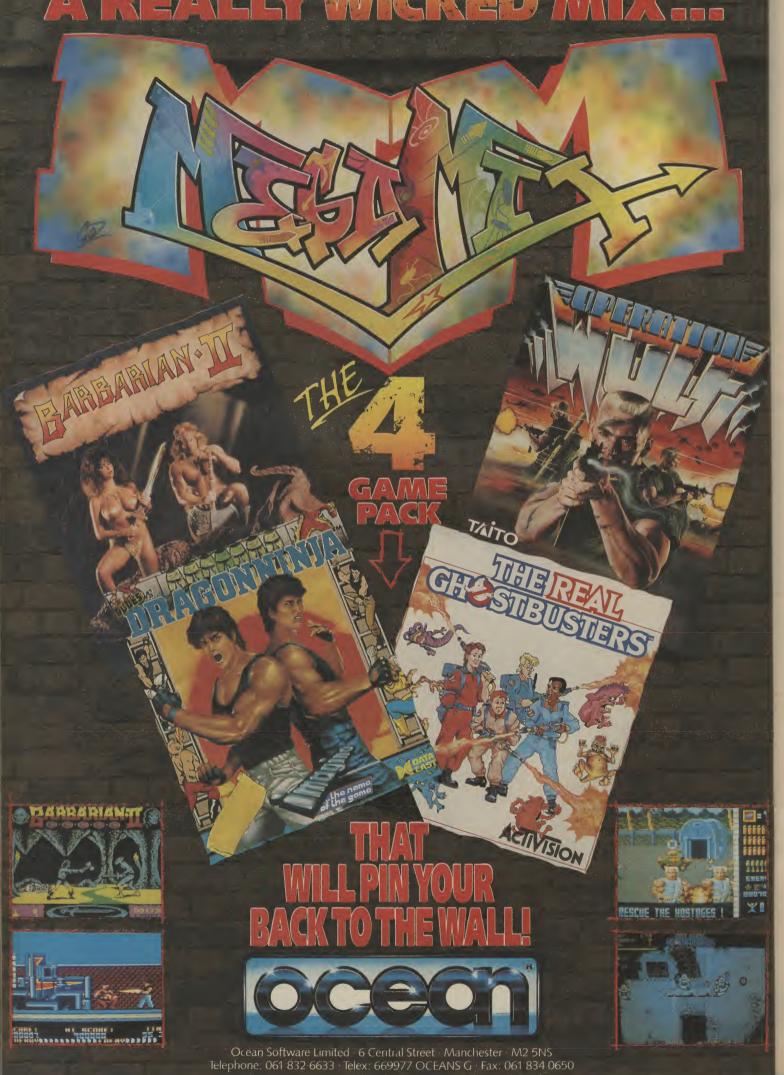
the nowmers prepared to file away, ignoring me, I was still rooted to the t. This was going to take a bit of getting used to.

£19.99 **GRAPHICS** 78% SOUND N/A VALUE 86% **PLAYABILITY 89%** 

A jolly good adventure which will doubtless appeal to all adventure players.

**OVERALL** 

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Oh dear! Keith Campbell reports from a barren desert of a oncegreen adventure world. But is it all bad news?

Adventure fans could be in for a lean time in the coming months! Level 9 have released their "final" adventure, Scapeghost, and are moving on into arcade-oriented RPGs. This will be a sore disappointment to their adventure fans, especially those who were looking forward to adventure-oriented RPGs from Level 9 - the Austin's original plan.

Nothing new is likely to emerge from Magnetic Scrolls until at least March. When I spoke to her, Anita Sinclair was being particularly tightlipped about future plans, except to say their next adventure will be "mind blowing" Scrolls currently intend to release no more than one adventure per year. To fill their idle hours, they are diversifying into business software, it seems. What? Yet more spread sheets? Perhaps these will have spectacular pulldown graphics...

Apart from the promised Sierra titles reported last month, and the occasional surprises that pop up now and again, it seems we will be pretty starved of new adventures until Elvira arrives. Elvira, a big name in horror in the USA, is a big girl wher- cue of a lady in distress? Her ever she goes, as I discovered recently, when, with countless others, I queued for a turn to sit rather close to her in a London nightclub to capture the occasion of the press launch of a video and computer game. Elvira specialises in horror, and as well as being the mascot of Mike Woordroffe's Horror Soft, she is to star in their next adventure, entitled: Elvira - Mistress Of The Dark. Elvira (the game) should be coming to a computer store near you anytime now.

## **ADVENTURE** HELPLINE

hat next? - the infamous cry of the vexed adventurer - is echoed by Allen and Mark Errington. Playing Manhunter New York, they have found a crowbar and a body in the park, and can go no further. Which seems to be more or less the spot where Erik Brovig from Oslo has got stuck. He's outside the Natural History Museum, and stranded in Central Park by a bush under which he has found a metal device. Sounds like you have unearthed Allen and Mark's crowbar there, Erik!

Whilst pondering their Manhunter dilemma, Allen and Mark decided to play Gold Rush, and were last heard of expressing their disappointment at not finding a key for the door under James' cabin! Any experienced gold diggers out there?

Alan Ralph of Brighton has a Personal Nightmare in which he gets run down and killed by a car. He can dodge it, but sooner or later it alwavs comes back and gets him! Can anyone rid him of this terrible dream?

Who can come to the resname is Carol, and she is having terrible trouble with a fanglizard in that Ram Jam adventure, The Terrors Of Tran-

Here's a problem from a home-grown adventure to test you! It's one that I have not come across, but then a Helpline is here to help all! Who can tell Ian Miguel of Lockerbie how to get past the Stone Demon in Crystal Carem?

How do you escape from a bunch of humanoids, when your hands are tied and you

have no possessions? That is a question that has been much troubling Legend Of The Sword players. Has any-body solved it? "Here's my best chance," I thought when I bumped into that "Infocom before breakfast" adventure expert Paul Coppins, once a mainstay of the C+VG Adventure Helpline, and currently working for Microprose. "But I only hit upon the answer by accident!" remarked Paul in his usual modest way. You'll find Paul's way out of this tricky situation in the Clues section!

If you have answers to any of the problems mentioned here, some hot tips for a recent adventure or RPG, or some pressing problems of your own, then drop me a line at Adventure Helpline, C+VG, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU. I'll write back as soon as I can! And if your name is Kelly Medori and you live in Italy, please write again as I would like to discuss Scary Mutants but I have lost your address!

## ROLE CALL

ungeon Master is nothing if not a tricky game, and it seems my tipsters have fallen victim to its trickery! According to Stephen Salt of Newark, the answer to "I am all, I am none" is not NOTH-ING, as printed in the September issue, but the MIR-ROR OF DAWN. If only three items are correct the gate will open, but if all four right a hole opens in the wall on the left hand side of the gate as well, and it contains a

It's not much fun slopping around in a sewer, not knowing where to go next! That's the current position of Simon Leigh of Bristol, who is playing Bard's Tale, and cannot find the exit stairway going down from the first sewer level. Meanwhile, Jonathan Murphy of Carmarthen has found the silver square

and circle, but is unable to locate the silver triangle, needed to enter the final level of Mangar's Tower. "I must say that your adventure column has been going strong through thick and thin when other lesser magazines have stopped covering adventures due to "lack of interest". So I'd just like to say keep up the good work," adds Jonathan. And I'd like to say "Thank you, Jonathan!"

Erik Brovig once made it into the wizard's room in the magnificent pyramid of Pools Of Radiance, but died at the



hands of the demon. How can he return and survive the experience?

And finally: "Any idea where the abyss is in Ultima IV?" asks Michael Bogle of Edinburgh.

## **HOME GROWN ADVENTURES**

itch Pomfret of MSB Games hopes to revitalise the 8 bit market with a series of new adventures. First will be Blood Of A Vampire, a C64 text adventure. A 16 bit version may follow. "Any publishers out there interested?" asks Mitch, hopefully.

**Correction: Shards Of** Time, an adventure from Titan Games, reviewed in the September issue, costs £7.99, not £14.99 as printed. A

graphically enhanced version capable of running on a 1040ST is also available for £8.99.

This month sees the first home grown adventure from Stormbringer Software: Menagerie. Written for the 48k Spectrum using PAW, it casts you as a vampire, and the game opens just after a successful encounter

with a vic tim. In flight from the police, stumble into a bunch of you my little eye a Bat's Boney s we go to press, a copy Bare Bod. of a letter from the ex-Ad-I can do nothing but venturer's Club Ltd to an exwarmly recommend this member has come into my slightly irreverent adventure. hands. It announces the re-It costs £2.49 and it's availlaunch of the club during Noable from Ian Brown, 1 vember, and was apparently Amanda Road, Glen Parva, sent only to people who had Leicester LE2 9HW, to whom ordered software through cheques should be made ACL. No mention is made as payable. to the position of members with part of their subscrip-**ACL TO** RETURN?

tions unexpired when the

aliens, and pass out as they

point a hand-held device at

You wake up to find yourself a rare species in an alien menagerie. As alien blood is not compatible with your metabolism, your only hope is to find the lost Bloodstone of Baal, and squeeze it.

This is a humorous adventure, with a few graphics and some refreshingly amusing replies to the player.
"Examine handbag", for example, elicits the reply "A quite spacious handbag that formerly belonged to a middle aged woman with blood group O Rhesus Negative." And after removing your clothes to provide enough objects to plot a maze, every response contains the phrase "I spy with

club ceased to function. I wish to make it clear that I am no longer President of the club, nor do I support it in any way.

# 

**ZORK II** 

BALLOON: Fly it by removing the cover from the container, and burning anything

BANK: Try walking through wallst

BOX IN WALL (UP VOLCA-NO). Use the fire brick to blow it open. Make a fuse from string.

ferent effect when eaten. Work out your strategy before consuming!

CAROUSEL ROOM: To stop it revolving, press the button in the machine room. **CLEAR SPHERE:** Throw

your sword at the glass to get

CRYPT: Turn off all the lights when inside! DRAGON: Keep attacking it with the sword and moving towards the ice room. **GRUE REPELLENT:** You must stop the carousel room before you can find it!

IRON KEY: Retrieve it from the other side of the door

using the classic method! The tools required are in the gaze-

PORTRAIT: Remove it from CAKES: They each have a dif- the bank by dropping the brochure in a viewing room, and then walking through the cur-

LIZARD DOOR: The lizard likes a special type of candy. MENHIR: Move it by casting the FLOAT spell. You need the wizard's wand to do this. **ODDLY ANGLED MAZE: It** is shaped like a baseball pitch. Move as if going from base to base, and note that the lights should get brighter as you progress.

UNICORN: To get his key, kill the dragon and rescue the princess. Follow her when she leaves to collect your re-

WELL: To reach the top, get into the bucket and pour water.

WIZARD: Put paid to him at the end of the game. Pay the devil his due and get him to do the dirty work!





## **ADVENTURE CLUES**

This month's hot problems

SPACE QUEST III: Take the ladder with you immediately after you have climbed it. When you leave the shop, turn left and take the lift in the monument.

FA

FR

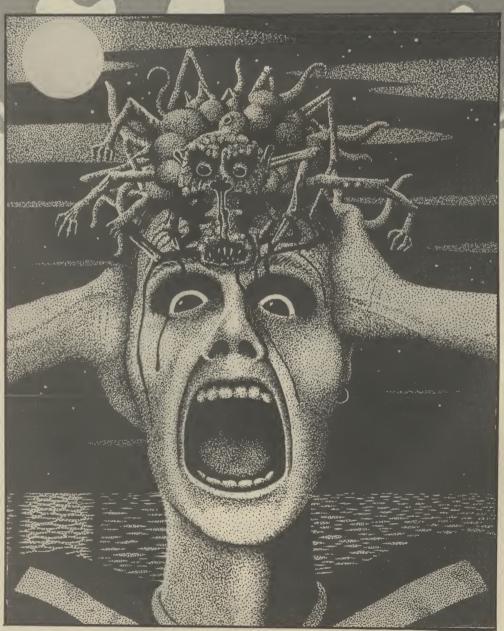
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LORD OF THE RINGS: Send Sam ahead (without the ring) to kill all the riders then you don't need the gems. KING'S QUEST IV: Climb the whale's tongue from bottom left to top centre. SAVE GAME before attempting! LEGEND OF THE SWORD: Drop and break a bottle be-

fore getting caught. Use your feet to manipulate the broken glass to cut your bonds.





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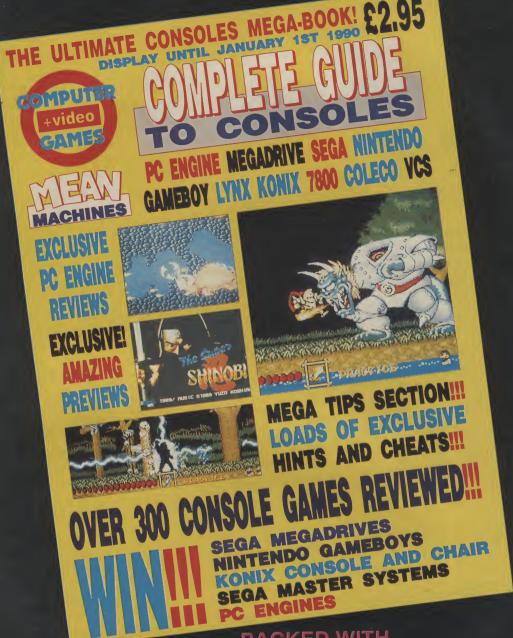
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93% TGM







# TENNIS ACF

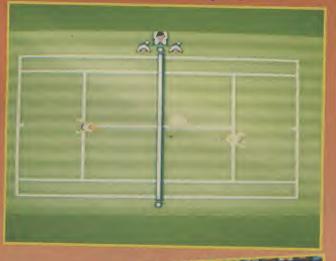
So what if it's the middle of winter? So what if the municipal court is under six inches of rain or six feet of snow? With Tennis Ace you could be John McEnroe every day of the year and suffer no ill effects.

The first thing that occurs to you about Tennis Ace is that for a tennis game it has a vast array of option screens. They start with a one or two-player select and password entry so you can start playing part way through a world tournament.

Next you're given the choice of being one of sixteen players, which are rated on technique, power and speed, and are also designated as stroke players, net

players or off-rounders. After that you can train, start a tournament or play a singles or doubles exhibition match on a lawn, day or hard court. As well as playing your opponents in a doubles match, the computer can play as your partner which makes for a more interesting (and slightly easier) game, I found.

When you finally get around to actually starting the game, a big player sprite serves the ball, and the screen changes to a top view of the court which scrolls from side to side to follow the ball. The two buttons provide forehand and lob shots, but if the ball is in the right place you can also smash it across the court. Not a huge range of shot options, it's true, but sufficient. After all, getting the diagonal to









perform a diving backhand would be pretty difficult on the Sega's control pad.

Graphically, Tennis Ace is tidy rather than outstanding, but there are a selection of jingley tunes and there's even some of that Sega-speech which sounds like a sub-aquatic alsatian.

To be honest, watching a ball sprite bounce back and forth over a line down the centre of the screen never really got my pulse racing. But if computer tennis is your bag, this is one of the best examples of it - not quite an ace, but worth checking out.

**PAUL GLANCEY** 

7/////////	//////
SEGA	£24.95
GRAPHICS	80%
SOUND	75%
VALUE	79%
PLAYABILI'	TY 77%

Lots of options and decent gameplay make this the best tennis game on the Sega. Check it out if you're a fan of the sport.

OVERALL 79%





# CLOUD MASTER

Weirdworld is in a state of turmoil. The crazed wizard Blurgh has emerged from 2000 years of solitude, his warped mind set on overthrowing the State and ruling Weirdworld. But one person is man enough to stand up against Blurgh and beat the charlatan at his own game. So, with magic gun in hand and flying "Monkey" cloud underfoot, off you go to do battle with Blurgh's warriors.

And what a motley crew they are, too! Throughout the game you encounter, amongst other things, formation-flying corn flakes bowls (complete with natty red stripe around the middle), winged Chinese waiters, cats' heads (the remnants of Blurgh's supper) and armoured turtles, each packing a powerful punch in the form of unlimited bursts of merciless gunfire.

Luckily for you, you're not alone in the fight, for throughout the battle you are able to enter hidden shops and borrow an item of well-powerful weaponry. Extra firepower is also available by clearing away certain waves of baddies, but guns are useless if you aren't fleet of foot and nifty with the old cloud. And at the end of each level you are tested to the full by an enormous end-of-stage monster which throws shots at you faster

than you can say "Help, help I'm going to dieeee!".

Although the Cloud Master offers little in the way of innovative features, perseverance reveals a rather enjoyable little blast. It's important not to let your mind wander while playing as, due to the vast amount of bright colours on-screen, the eye can easily be lured away from impending doom in the shape of a stray bullet.

Playability is generally high, apart from one annoying facet which is that, when shot, you are sent back to the beginning of FAVORITE MAGICAL POWER.

the level. I have never understood why this "feature" is included in games, as it puts the

player off progressing further after he has spent ages battling to get where he is.

Still, shoot 'em up fans should enjoy the action.

PAUL RAND



SEGA £24.95
GRAPHICS 80%
SOUND 42%
VALUE 68%
PLAYABILITY 75%

A frustrating, but nevertheless enjoyable shoot 'em up which features the weirdest characters you'll ever pump full of laser.

OVERALL 72%

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The action takes place in a pseudo-3D scrolling landscape Bloody can run in and out of the screen, and throw grenades and shoot in all directions. Enemy soldiers are everywhere - on motorbikes, behind oil drums, perched on trucks - and all fire at the hero on sight. If Bloody sustains a hit, his energy bar is worn down, and a completely depleted bar results in the loss of one of his three lives.

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simply touching them

As the hero progresses through the game, there are major obstacles to overcome, such as a giant submarine and a huge tank, and there are some horrible surprises in store later on. I'm not going to tell what, but if you've seen Rambo II, they're along those sort of lines.

To be perfectly honest, Bloody Wolf looks pretty awful, but beneath the poor graphics

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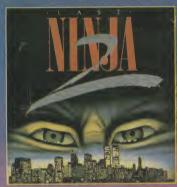
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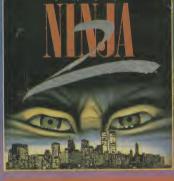


SHAKE ... RATTLE ... ROLL IT

AFTERBURNER — You've played the arcade smash - now experience the white-knuckled realism of a supersonic dogfight at home! Using your heat-seeking missiles and laser anti-aircraft fire, can you be top gun

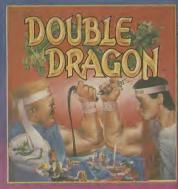
Experience brain-numbing G-forces; bones rattling with the body-larring pitch and yaw scan with your radar, lock on your target and FIRE!

nerge sources. The Been of an armonimum of 5060 ENTERPRISES and This game has been manufactured under licence from Sega Enterprises Ltd.,



Once beaten, but not destroyed, the evil Shogun Kunitoki used all his mystic powers to transport himself through time and establish a new empire of tyranny in modern day Manhattan. In fear of Kunitoki's bring you, the Last Ninja, across arrive in this frightening and nothing with you save your intelligence, skill and cunning and a burning desire for vengeance. Will this be the final battle? Can you vanquish Kunitoki once and for all? System Three Software Ltd. All rights Sammon Samon

The World's most famous sports car race comes to your home computer screen with this exciting simulation of the 24 hour Le Mans race. World endurance Championship sports cars battle through day and night sequences where both simulator reproduces all the elements at the famous race the track.



Skillful programming has taken the superb graphics and addictive game play of the monster Arcade hit and faithfully reproduced it in home computer versions.

Join in deadly combat with the infamous Shadow Boss. Use whatever weapons come to through the slums, factories, and wooded outskirts of the city to reach the Black Warrior hideout, for the final confrontation with the Shadow Boss himself!

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# THE ARCADE IN YOUR BEDROOM

If you're one of those who's always wanted a real coin-op in your bedroom, Mention Technical Services has something that you could well be interested in. Paul Glancey has the story...

Owning an Engine or a Megadrive was one hard-to-beat pose for anyone who wanted to be part of the real gaming elite. I use the past tense, because now there IS a way to out-cool Johnny "Consoles" Chuckletrousers across the street - Mention's Personal Arcade Plus.

After many months of importing and selling consoles, Mention Technical Services have decided to take the arcade experience even further with a coin-op cabinet which fits around a Megadrive, PC Engine, in fact any console or computer on the market.

It's a sturdy pre-built wooden box that comes in black, silver, red or wood veneer and is, to all intents and purposes, a coin-op cabinet.

At the top of the machine is a shelf into which you put a SCART monitor/TV (it can be up to 19 inches wide). Incidentally, you MUST have a SCART socket on your monitor otherwise the machine won't work. Once the monitor is safely stored, all you have to do is plug the cabinet's joystick circuit into the controller ports of your console (just like plugging in a joystick), bung in a cartridge and switch on. The cabinet has two arcade-quality sticks, six fire buttons and two select buttons which you can use on any one or two-player PC Engine or Megadrive game.

The gubbins. Plug in and go!

But this isn't the most exciting feature of the Arcade Plus, though. Inside the veneered chipboard casing, there's a circuit board which lets you hook up the main program board from any JAMMA-compatible arcade game to the joysticks. Effectively this means you can slot in any game with the same single joystick/three fire button controls - anything from old classics such as Bubble Bobble to newer titles



Smart eh?





Jim gets to grips with Side Arms.

like Prehistoric Isle or Golden Axe. Obviously newer, classier boards cost the most (Robocop would set you back around £325) but you can pick up old games such as Bombjack, Yie Ar Kung-Fu, Pengo, Exiron, Ikari Warriors and Tiger Heli for as little as £30 in the classifieds of arcade trade papers like Coin Slot. The high turnover of arcade games mean that there are heaps of bargain boards coming on to the second-hand market every month.

At £199.99, the Personal Arcade Plus is an obvious luxury, but it gives arcade fanatics the chance to play real coin-op games at home at a relatively cheap price (since a proper arcade cabinet of similar standard would set you back over £400). Older arcade boards can be bought surprisingly cheaply, often only a few pounds more than a PC Engine or Megadrive cartridge, and you can always sell boards at very little loss once you're bored with them.

If you've got the cash, the Personal Arcade Plus is an innovative and highly desirable piece of equipment that any arcade fanatic would want in his bedroom.

For more information, contact Mention Technical Services on 0436 78827, or write to PO BOX 18, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire, G84 7DQ.

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	*	*	*	ZYBEX	*	*	-

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# 5 NINTENDO DELUXE SETS ON OFFER

Those lovely people at Nintendo have decided to move Christmas forward a month and have five brilliant Nintendo Deluxe Sets to give away. These megapacks contain a Nintendo console, a light gun for shooting down those pixel baddies, a friendly ROB robot AND a couple of games to get you started! Brilliant, eh?
"Where's the catch", we hear you cry. Well, there isn't one. Well, not much of one really. All you've got to do is answer the easy peasy lemon squeezy questions below, pop them on the back of a postcard and send it off to: N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-NINTENDO COMP, C+VG, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGDON LANE, LONDON, EC1R 3AU.

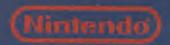
Okay, here are the questions...

- 1. Mario is a Nintendo megastar but what is his brother called?
- 2. What is the sequel to Donkey Kong called?
- 3. Gradius is one of the top Nintendo shoot 'em ups. What was the arcade game better known as in the UK?

Please make sure your entries arrive before January 4th 1990, 'cos that's when we'll be putting them into a large pair of Y-fronts. The first five correct entries pulled out will win their senders the fab Nintendo sets. So what are you waiting for? Get writing!







The World's Number One Game System.



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# BEVIEW

# - ST AMIGA SPECTRUM

### BY DOMARK

kay, okay! I know it's winter, and it's most probably just about to pour with rain, but imagine yourself in California on a sun-kissed day. It's hot. Reeeeal hot. To cool off, you and your buddy Bif each grab a sixpack of Cokes, inflate a couple of giant inner "toobs", jump in the creek and prepare to let your troubles float away...

But as you doze off downstream, you start to dream that the creek has become a wide, wide river. Suddenly, off to the right, a tree plunges into the water and floats in your direction! If it punctures the toob it'll be certain glugsville! In desperation you hurl one of your coke cans towards it and, amazingly, it goes straight to the bottom! But before you have time to get cocky, some more formidable foes appear further down the bank...

Fishermen cast their deadly

Dodge the snakes, Bif!



Yaah! It's the 'gator!



hooks at you, and you have to use your hands and feet to frantically paddle your toob away from rocks, sharp branches in the water and nasty toob-eating snakes.

The only way you and Bif can ever wake up from this nightmare is to toob it all the way to the end of the river - and that means running the gauntlet of a daunting array of hazards. Every so often the river forks - with each separate tributary leading to another world. In Hillbilly land, blunderbuss-packing bumpkins are after our buoyant boys. Hell is full of such nightmarish creatures as skulls, knife murderers and pyramids with eyes. Even worse is The City (all concrete, nasty punks and pollution), and then there's The Jungle and Ice World which are



both teeming with deadly wil-

To make things even more difficult you have to manoeuvre your toob through bonus gates. Miss too many and a giant 'gator swims down from the top of the screen and tears you limb from limb.

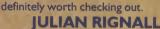
But it's not all a nightmare. There are extra coke cans dotted around the river which can be picked up and hurled at the baddies, and if you grab a sixpack, you'll have an unlimited arsenal - very handy. Beach balls speed up your rubbery ride and there are also extra lives to collect in the form of toob patches.

If you manage to reach the beach party at the end of the final level, the nightmare is over and you can return to normality (as if anything in California was Hillbillyland on the Spectrum.

Weeee! Down the rapids!

chucking Coke cans at wacky baddies might sound silly, but it's great fun - you just never know what to expect next!

The graphics on both the Amiga and ST are great, with nicely detailed sprites and colourful backdrops, and there are a host of wacky soundtracks to toob to. The gameplay is highly addictive, with bonuses all over the shop and some really crazy worlds to paddle through. Whether or not you were a fan of the coin-op, this conversion is



**Amstrad and C64 versions** are coming soon, and will Spectrum version, but will have much better graphics and sound.

UPDATE

play very similarly to the





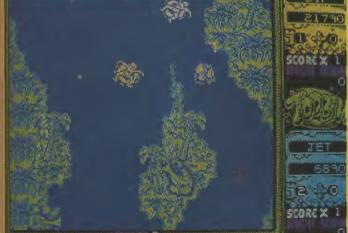
**GRAPHICS** 

SOUND VALUE PLAYABILITY 84%

Looks, sounds and plays great. An excellent conversion of Tengen's weird and wonderful coin-op.

More colourful sprites, fullscreen scrolling and superb tunes make this even more fun than the ST version. If you're after an original and fun-packed game, check this sucker OUT!

Decent scrolling, but some of the sprites are a little indistinct. Still, this conversion captures the spirit of the coin-op, and is addictive and enjoyable.



Yaah! It's the 'gator! Yes, again!



ever normal anyway).

As you might have gathered reading this, Toobin' is one strange game. But it's this surreal weirdness that makes it so appealing. Paddling down a river

P-P-Pick up a patch.

# PREVIEW

# NORTH AND SOUTH

**INFOGRAMES** Remember the North and South TV miniseries of a couple of years back? Well that's got nothing to do with this game. Well, OK, it has, but only insofar as it's based on the events of the American Civil War. Stop yawning at the back, there - sure it's a strategy game, but there's not a hex-grid or co-ordinate entry system in sight. In fact Infogrames' effort is an ingenious arcade/strategy game in the Defender of the Crown mould which pits your Yankees against the computer's Confederates (or the other way around). Three laff-a-minute arcade sections and loads of humorous touches make North and South one to look out for. RELEASED: AMIGA NOW, ST PC NOVEM-PRICES: AMIGA ST



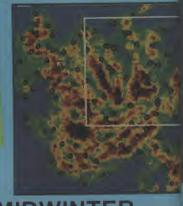


### SNOOPY AND THE CASE OF THE LOST BLANKET THE EDGE

Seems The Edge are right ones for licensing cartoon characters. After digitising Garfield's furry fizzog they've produced an arcade adventure starring Schulz's ebullient beagle. The plot centres on Linus' security blanket which has mysteriously gone walkabout and it's up to Snoopy to take on the role of detec-

tive in the search for the

missing material. The



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## EUROPEAN SUPER-LEAGUE

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Christmas without a
footy game in the charts,
and CDS have come up
with the goods just as Division One is beginning
to get interesting. European Superleague casts
you as the manager of
one of the top eight international teams, with the
intention of taking your
brave boys to the top of
the table. Standing in
your way are the other

teams (of course), a know-it-all chairman who has no qualms about firing you at the first available opportunity, injuries to your players and postponed matches. Totally icon driven, and using a unique system to display each Saturday's playing-pitch proceed-

league kicks into touch as you read this. Oi, Bobby, get that contract signed sharpish!
RELEASE: AMIGA ST SPECTRUM AM-STRAD C64, NOVEMBER
PRICE: AMIGA ST, £19.99, SPECTRUM

ings, European Super-



### MIDWINTER RAINBIRD

Alas, the Green Party didn't get into Parliament, and the environment has suffered. The Greenhouse Effect and Global Warming are in full swing. The world's governments have deteriorated along with the climate, and now one renegade dictator is hassling the newlyformed Free Villages Peace Force. It's up to you, as Captain Stark, to take on the enemy in a selection of scenes, in-

154

# PREVIEW



Peanuts characters are all in there, giving out objects and verbal clues to help the dog detective along on one of the three different solutions. Sounds interesting check out the review next month.

RELEASE: ST AMIGA NOW, C64 SPECTRUM AMSTRAD, DECEMBER PRICE: ST AMIGA £19.99, C64 SPECTRUM AMSTRAD £9.99

### DARIUS PLUS THE EDGE

Taito's three-screen, twin-seater subaquatic shoot 'em up never received the adulation it deserved, but The Edge are about to fix that with their long-awaited conversions. Two extra tellies would have worked out a bit expensive, so the original has been reworked and even tarted up a bit by the Alien Syndrome programmers, hence the "Plus" suffix. How it plays, we're not sure, but dunnit look nice? Review next ish.



RELEASE: ST AMIGA C64 SPECTRUM AM-STRAD NOW

PRICE: ST AMIGA 19.99, C64 SPEC-TRUM AMSTRAD £9.99

# Blue Mountains Ohut Obunher Ochurch Ogarage Opylon Ostores Ocable car Oradio Ofactory Ohouse Oheat mine Opolice Owarehouse Osynthesis plant Oheadquarters Omagazine Osettlement

KEY RELIEF FULL MAP PEUP

duding hang-glider batles, skiing jaunts and cable car assaults. leaty stuff, huh? And so it should be, as it's being programmed by lords Of Midnight creator Mike Singleton and his Maelstrom software leam. With real-time, texured, light-sourced. solid 3D graphics-aplenty, Midwinter should ickle the fancy of every ardent CND campaigner. RELEASE: ST AMIGA C, NOVEMBER RICE: ST AMIGA PC. 124.99



### THE SEARCH FOR SHARLA THALAMUS

In production even as we speak is Thalamus' latest and most ambitious title to date. The Search For Sharla is being billed as a cross between Dungeon Master and Lords Of Midnight, with the task in hand being to defeat the evil sorceress, Sharla, who's up to all manner

of nasty things. The stats being bandied about are pretty staggering, with tens of thousands of different graphic views, a realistic sleep option (eh? - Ed) and over 500 interactive characters. This C64 screen shot looks a bit of all right, but how will the whole kit and kaboodle turn out like? Find out soon in our forthcoming review... **RELEASE: SPEC AMS** C64 ST AMIGA, DEC PRICE: TBA

# THE PUNISHER THE EDGE

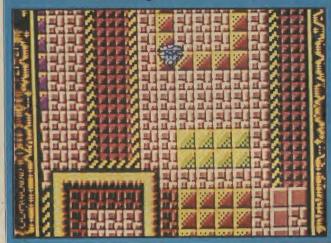
Dolph Lundgren, he of the hefty biceps and triceps which stormed across cinema screens in Rocky IV, returns to celluloid soon in a movie version of this violent comic book. The Edge, noticing the current revival of the whole comic industry secured the rights to the game of the film, a screen shot of which is here for your perusal. Expect oodles of fun 'n' guts when The Punisher blasts his way onto your monitor screen in two shakes of a dolph-in's flipper. RELEASE: SPEC AMS C64 ST AMIGA, DEC PRICE: TBA

# REVIEW

### SNARE **THALAMUS**

Crumbs! Thalamus certainly aren't resting on their laurels, are they! The boys with the smar- next month, so keep test T-shirts in the biz (excluding our own, of course) sent us a screen VEMBER shot of their latest orig-

inal product, which is described as "a weird shoot 'em up". Other details are lacking at present, but we should have a review of the product vour peepers peeled. RELEASE: C64, NO-PRICE: C64, £9.99



### SEVEN GATES OF **JAMBALA** GRANDSLAM

This strange game takes place in the mythical world of Jambala and you play a little bloke with absolutely no dresssense whatsoever (dig that "groovy" purple jacket and top hat!). The

object is to travel through the world, battling beasties, sloping off with your spoils and, presumably, opening the seven gates in the title. All sounds rather jolly, doesn't it. We'll review it when it lands on our desks...

RELEASE: ST AMIGA C64, NOVEMBER PRICE: ST £19.99,

AMIGA £24.99, C64 29.99



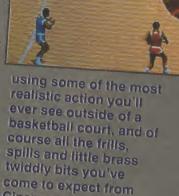
### **JUMPING** JACK SON **INFOGRAMES**

Jumping Jack Son is the only surviving ancestor of rock 'n' roller Jumping Jack Flash, he of the old Rolling Stones hit that none of us can remember. Anyway, young Jack has to retrieve every last rock and roll record, left littered about by The Conductors, a vi-



### TV SPORTS BASKET-BALL MIRROR-SOFT/CINEMA-WARE

Who said TV Sports Football was the be-alland-end-all in 16 bit sport sims? Whoever you were, if Cinemaware's follow-up is anything to go by, you were wrong. We've seen a couple of early demos and, well, our jaws literally dropped. In fact, one member of staff had to be rushed to hospital to have his sewn back in place! The full five-onlive game is portrayed,



Cinemaware products

### HERAKLES **GAINSTAR**

Herakles takes place at a time of unrest in ancient Greece. Some nasty piece of work has thrown the keystone, life force of the Gods, off the top of Mount Olympus, smashing it into twelve pieces. Zeus' son, Herakles, must leave behind the tranquility of his unearthly homeland to search for



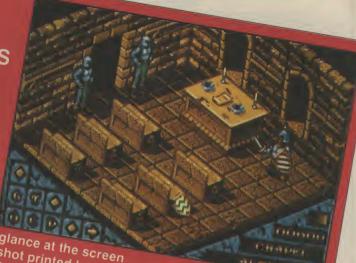
# REVIEW



cious band of classical music lovers. Not only that, but he must also find the first record which Elvis made, recorded on his mum's birthday. Weird or what! Find out what the world's first rock 'n' roll arcade game is like when we review it in the not-too-distant future. RELEASE: ST AMIGA. **JANUARY** PRICE: ST AMIGA, £19.99

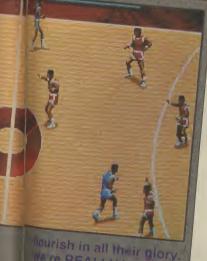
# CADAVER MAGEWORKS

Hold onto your dangly bits and keep your fingers out of the electricity sockets folks, cos the latest game from those bastions of brilliance, the Bitmap Brothers, are about to knock out their next title! The lads with the binary Midas Touch are turning their combined talents to the world of arcade adventures with Ca- that this ain't gonna be daver, in which you play a Sherlock Holmes-alike in the Dark Ages, on the trail of a mass murderer. Just casting a swift



shot printed here shows no walk through the park (hardly surprising really - it's set in a castle!) but what they can promise you is the

usual attention to detail MIMEN which have made the Bitmaps the hottest property in the 16 bit marketplace. RELEASE: ST AMIGA PC, NEW YEAR PRICE: TBA



We're REALLY looking lowerd to this one. HELEASE AMIGA HRISTMAS, ST PC RICE: AMIGA £29.99. PC C64 TBA

### **PSYCHO FOX** SEGA

This one looks very familiar to us lot down here. Remember the computer game Foxx Fights Back from a year ago? Yes, it does bear a bit of a resemblance, don't you think? Whether it is a conversion of that title we don't know, but we don't really care as long as the finished product is worth playing - after all, that's what counts, isn't it.

RELEASE: SEGA, DEC PRICE: £24.95





the pieces, before the evil spirits rise up and do unspeakable things to the inhabitants of the country. Featuring "unique" 3D perspective views and a scaleddown map of Greece, Herakles should tickle the fancy of both gamers and historians alike.

RELEASE: ST AMIGA PC, JANUARY PRICE: ST AMIGA PC,

£24.99

### DYNAMITE DUX SEGA

Sega's own cute 'n cuddly high-explosive hurling feathered friends finally waddle their way onto the Master System, meeting with whoops of admiration from their devoted fans. Heavy artillery is the name of the game as our heroes launch an all-out offensive to retrieve their



chicks (!) from a big bad ball of fluff. Looks good, doesn't it. Let's hope it's as playable as the orig-

inal, too. RELEASE: SEGA, JANUARY PRICE: £24.95

# PREVIEW



# DEAD ANGLE SEGA

Another arcade conversion to the little 8 bit console, with the currently trendy 1930's Prohibition "bust up the booze racketeers with a big gun" storyline. If this screen shot is anything to go by, Sega owners are in for a treat when Dead Angle hits the store shelves soon.

RELEASE: SEGA, JANUARY
PRICE: £24.95

### BASKET-BALL NIGHTMARE SEGA

Basketball with a terrifying difference - after all, wouldn't you be more than slightly wary of a basketball-wielding wolf wearing a pair of purple drainpipes? Positively nightmarish! A strange new twist on a well-tried theme looks set to be a winner with

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# ASTERIX AND THE ENCHANTED CASTLE COKTELVISION

Asterix is all set to make his second appearance on home computers after the disastrous attempt made by Melbourne House a couple of years back. This time, Panoramix has forgotten how to make the magic strength potion which helps the Gauls keep those marauding Ro-

mans at bay. As everyone's fave small Gaul, the player must travel around the thirtyscreen playing area, collecting the ingredients with which to make the potion. There are twenty different ways to make the stuff, and only one of them is correct, so loads of headache-inducing potion-mixing is on the cards when the game is released in the coming weeks. RELEASE: ST AMIGA PC, JANUARY PRICE: ST AMIGA PC 224.99



# DRAKKHEN

Infogrames reckon that Drakkhen is the best RPG since Dungeon Master, but then they all say that, don't they? We got a version in the other day and we were just about to set off on the 3D scrolling land-scape, a-rompin' and a-rampagin' through the vast castles and dungeons when we discovered the text in our



# FULL METAL PLANETE INFOGRAMES

Gosh, doesn't the title of this latest game from over ze water sound a teensy bit like a rather gory Stanley Kubrick film about Vietnam? So what if it does, the two have absolutely nothing in common. Full Metal Planete is derived from a French Sci-Fi strategy board game called Ludodelire, and it centres around the exploits of a mercenary, hired by a large mining company,



to nobble the opposition and pinch all of their gear. Sound wild and wacky enough to you? I certainly does to us her at C+VG. Whether the finished article is up to



question is, would YOU play ball wearing anything less than designer

RELEASE: SEGA, DEC PRICE: £24.95

# Sega sports addicts. The

problems stand between you and your title. Five leagues, trivia questions, international matches, gambling and team tactics all rear their spherical pig bladders as you work toward your goal (pun). Sounds fun? Look out for a review.

FOOTBAL-

YEAR II **GREMLIN** 

LER OF THE

Four hundred thousand soccer fans went out and bought Gremlin's Footballer Of The Year, so it seems only sensible for the Sheffield-

based softco bring out a

your fellow footy players to become Footballer Of

The Year - but this time

sequel, and this is it.

The aim's the same -

that of beating all of

round a host of new

coming soon to these pages!

CA.

RELEASE: ST AMIGA SPECTRUM AM-STRAD C64, NOVEM-**BER** 

PRICE: ST AMIGA, £19.99, SPECTRUM AMSTRAD C64, £9,99





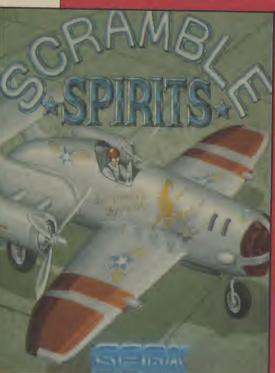
scratch is up to Infogrames, though. RELEASE: ST AMIGA, CHRISTMAS PRICE: ST AMIGA,

£24.99

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